

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No. 09/844,075

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-25 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are rejected. Claims 8-25 are allowed. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are cancelled, thereby placing the application in condition for allowance.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because the same reference character has been used to identify two different structures. Applicant has corrected the drawings and attaches the redrafted figures them for review and approval by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

The claims are objectionable because claim number 4 is missing. It appears that the claims were originally misnumbered, such that claim 5 followed claim 3. Applicant respectfully submits that this objection is rendered moot by cancellation of all of claims 1-7. To the extent that the Examiner is required to take any additional non-substantive steps to remedy this error, he is authorized to do so.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Wright et al (6,512,749). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al (6,512,749) in view of Iuoras (6,445,707). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 2.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al (6,512,749) in view of Prieto (6,621,801). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 3.

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Claim 5 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al (6,512,749) in view of Mirek (5,878,032) and Murata (6,470,004). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 5.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al (6,512,749) in view of Marvin (4,318,126). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 6.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright et al (6,512,749) in view of Jaime (6,449,265). This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 7.

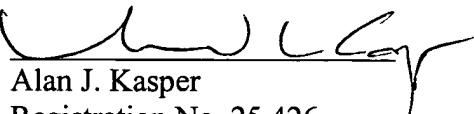
Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-25 are considered to be allowable. Applicant is grateful for the Examiner's indication of allowability.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 6, 2004

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1

Attachment: Replacement Sheet